A Seasonble WARNING TO Protestants;

FROM THE CRUELTY and TREACHERY OF THE

PARISIAN MASSACRE,

August the 24*th*. 1572.

WHEREIN,

The Snares laid for the Innocent are Detected, and Posterity Cautioned *not to Believe.*

WITH

The *Pope's Bull* to Encourage and Justifie the Massacre and Rebellion of *IRELAND.*

Collected from the best French Historiographers.

LONDON,

Printed for *Benj. Alsop*, at the *Angel and Bible* over against the *Stocks-Market*. 1680.

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A Seaſonble WARNING TO Proteſtants;

From the Treachery and Cruelty of the Maſſacre of *Paris*, *Auguſt* 24*th*. 1572.

An Introduction to the enſuing Hiſtory.

WHoever ſhall place out *a few Pence to Purchaſe*, and *a few Hours to Peruſe* this Tragical Hiſtory, and ſhall thence create to himſelf panick Fears of *Papal Power*, and not learn to ſuſpect *Papal Promiſes*, has clearly thrown away his Coin and time in buying, and Reading it.

For the true Deſign of this Pamphlet, is not to intimidate Mens Spirits with dreadful Apprehenſions of the *Papiſts Strength*, but to Arm and Fortifie their weak Souls againſt it; nor to diſcourage them with a diſmal ſtory of *Romiſh Treacheries*, but to Caution them to a prudent Jealouſie of being enſnared by them.

An Attempt of great Serviceableneſs to the preſent Age, for I am perſwaded there was never yet any Impoſtor that made it his Buſineſs to deceive, but he might always find a Number of Eaſie, Ductile, Tractable Souls, that were as ready to be deceived as he could wiſh.

We are commonly Liberal, nay, Prodigal of ſevere Language, and hard words, againſt Treachery, Falſhood, and Perjury, and yet though Popery has upon theſe Accounts been *Stript*, *and Whipt*, *and Pillory'd*, and Burnt in the *Hand*, *Fore-head*, *and Shoulder*,

'tis an even wager, that in the next Inſtance, we ſhall be as palpably over-reacht, as if we never had had fair warning given us of their Policies, nor ever ſmarted for our own haſty belief.

I intend not to Anticipate the Hiſtory it ſelf, by making Tragical declamations againſt the Inhumanity, the Barbarity of the *Guiſian Faction*, therein deſcribed. The Narrative it ſelf will do the Reader that piece of Service without my aſſiſtance, which muſt be an *Impertinent Tautology*, if *I ſhould*; or elſe *a lame and defective Story*, if I *ſhould not* Tranſcribe the Book in the Introduction.

But the *Treachery* of that Contrivance, as it made way for the *Cruelty*, is that alone againſt which I muſt now Caution the Reader, which if he ſhall take, and Skilfully improve, he has the Encouragement of an Infallible Obſervation, *That none ever yet periſhed by* Popiſh Fury, *that were not firſt Cajoled by* Popiſh Subtilty; but if he ſhall deſpiſe the Caution given him, he muſt expect to fall under a more ſevere Axiome. *That they whom God intends to Deſtroy, he firſt Infatuates, and then leaves them to be ſcourged by their own Credulity.*

'Tis the pooreſt Alleviation of Miſery in the World, *to Complain that we were Trappan'd into our Miſeries*; and none meet with leſs pity (what-ever they deſerve) than thoſe ſilly good Natur'd Fools, that ſuffer their careleſs Foot to be taken *a ſecond time* in that Snare out of which they were *once* delivered: He periſhes juſtly, that periſhes after open Proclamation, and Perſonal Experience of Danger; and muſt be preſumed willing to be Cheated, who is twice ſnickled by the ſame Fallacy. *We pity* him that once ſtrikes upon a Rock, but if he Ship-wrack a ſecond time, let him *pity himſelf*.

Wiſe Men have Authenticated that Rule, *Nervus eſt Sapientiæ nil fidere*, He that truſts none, can never be Cheated: For the weaker to be over-powred by the ſtronger, is no Reproach; for the Innocent, plain-hearted Man to be out-witted by an old beaten Cheat, is an eaſie ſuppoſal; but to truſt that Man, that has given me demonſtration that he will deceive me, and whoſe Intereſt it is to deceive me, this I ſay is unpardonable.

Suſpicion always Dwels next door to *Wiſdom*; and I reckon him the onely Secure Perſon, that carries ſo much *Jealouſie* in his Breaſt, as to make him wary, and yet ſo much *Wit* withall, as to conceal his Jealouſies from thoſe whom he ſuſpects.

The beſt Expedient I can think on at preſent, to awaken us out

of

of our Security, is to make a Visit to *Ludgate*, where, if we Examine Prisoners, by what Accident they came into that Condition, they are all in one Tone and Tune; They lie not in for *their own Debts*, but were either Bound for Knaves, or had Knaves Bound to them, who left them in the lurch to Repent at leisure the forwardness of their Faith, and withal bewail that their Repentance so much resembles that of Hell, that it is *fruitless, and bootless*. And though the Apology of the Individuals may be Disguised with different Circumstances, yet the Total Sum of their Plea mounts to no more than this little, that they ventured their Estates, where they durst have ventured their Lives, but he that appear'd the *Picture of Honesty*, proved the *Pattern of Roguery*; and now they must expiate other Mens Crimes, by Folly made their own, in *a Nook of Hell*, *more terrible*, because *more real* than that of Purgatory.

I confess the Miscarriage of *some odd single Persons* in this kind is not to be remedied, unless we could put depraved Humane Nature once more *upon the Stocks*, and when we had *Carin'd her*, and made her tight, could *Launch her anew* into the World. But for *Kingdoms*, *Common-wealths*, for *Great Bodies* of able Head-pieces, to be charmed into a dead sleep by the soperiferous Rod of our *Mercurial Jesuitical Politicians*, this is that, which begets my wonder and astonishment; especially when it may be presumed that some of them have Travelled by the help of History into former Ages, where nothing more frequently occurs, than whole Charnel Houses filled with the Bones of those *Confiding Fools*, whom their own Credulity had betray'd into their Graves, with this sorry Epitaph to perpetuate their Memories, *Here lies a Good Natured Fool.*

The Story of *John Huss* has been worn so thread-bare, that it's now Scandalous to wear it any longer; who trusting to the safe Conduct of *Sigismund* the Emperour, ventured himself to *Constance*, where the *Infallible Council* declared, *That no Faith was to be kept with Hereticks*; and accordingly made him the first Example of their Opinion, and Burnt, what little Honesty they had left, and the good Man in the same Fire. *Luther* indeed escaped much better at *Wormes*, which we ascribe not to the great Truth of the Papists, but the greater Faithfulness of God, who moved the Emperour to assert *Luther*'s Protection, and not basely give him up to the Hands of them whose fingers itcht to be dealing with him.

Nor dare I Condemn thoſe ſingle preſidents of Chriſtian Fortitude, who have taken their Lives in their hands, and laid them at Gods Foot, and afterwards laid them down at the Stake in Defence of the Truth againſt its Enemies; for if *none* ſhould Suffer, where would be our *Martyrs?* If *all* ſhould Suffer, where would be our *Confeſſors?* If all were alike *Zealous*, we ſhould want a Seminary for *the next Age*. If all were equally *Timerous*, we ſhould want Witneſſes for the *preſent Age*; but this we muſt Condemn, when *A Proteſtant People*, wheadled with Sugred words, and ſmooth promiſes ſhall Surrender themſelves upon Diſcretion to Papal Power, which is their conſtant Method to get us into their Iron Claws; and then we may *weep* our fill, whilſt they ſit and Laugh at our Credulity.

And to ſpeak a known Truth, there are none that hear worſe on this Account (I mean their Credulouſneſs) than the Proteſtants of whom their Enemies Inſult, That what the Hereticks ever got by *Fighting*, they always loſt by *Treating*; and what the Papiſts loſe by *dry blows*, they always recovered by *Fineſſes*.

We have indeed believed our ſelves almoſt out at the heels, and have Traded ſo long on *Catholick Publick Faith*, that we are wellnigh Bankrupts. And yet we that have ſmarted ſo ſore, by truſting their Equivocating Oaths, have learnt ſo little Wit, (which we have bought and paid for ſo dear) that we are ready to run the ſame Riſque, and venture into the Lions Den, when there are no Footſteps that may Encourage us to hope for a ſafe Return.

I know well they that are *no Slaves to their words*, and abhor that Conſcience, which would be their Maſter, have a huge Advantage over others who deal upon the Square, to draw them into thoſe Snares they had laid for them; nor is it any new thing to ſee the leſs conſiderate part of Mankind perplexed with a thouſand Inconveniences, which præcaution and fore-ſight would eaſily have diſcovered and prevented, which being Neglected, like *Hectick Fevers*, and left to diſcover themſelves, prove Remidileſs. And though theſe Traps by ſome few circumſpect Perſons are diſcerned and notified, yet the Miſery is, *The few* that are not Cheated, are ſo weakned by the *heedleſs Vulgar* who are, that they become a Prey to *the Fury* of their Enemies; as the *ſheepiſh many* were before made a prize to *their falſhood*; and thus the Multitude being caught in the *Old Muſe* ſet for them in the Hedge, the reſt are knockt o'th' Head *by Club-Law*,

Law, and both the one, and the other, firſt or laſt meet in the ſame pit of Ruine, though driven or drawn ſeveral wayes thither.

'Tis no contemptible Artifice of our Catholicks, that they have their *Decoy-Ducks*, in every Company where innocent and leſſe-wary men converſe together, and when any *ſpecious and plauſible Pretence* is given out to charm ſuſpition, theſe Inſtruments inſtructed for the game, tell us how diſ-ingenuous it is to ſuſpect and entertain ſiniſter conceits of Perſons of Honour, and Reputation, and that we ought to put the faireſt conſtruction the words will bear upon ſuch Promiſes and Proteſtations, for why ſhould we ſuſpect evil where none appears? and when they have once gotten us into the *Tram l*, they ſhall be fairly diſmiſt, and our necks wrung off without mercy.

There was never man that could conceal an inveterate grudge better then *Abſalom*, till a fit juncture ſhould invite him to execute his implacable malice; Revenge boyled in his heart, but a *Banquet* muſt be the *Train to the Trap*, and then he that could ſmile ſo friendly in *Amnons* face, could ſtrike him home under the fifth rib, and need not repeat his blow.

I have ſmil'd to ſee with what applauſe ſome purblind ſpectators entertain'd *a Health* (at a feaſt too) where a ſolemn Proteſtation, (like a lump of Sugar diſſolved in the glaſs, to make it go merrily down,) was made, *To ſecure the Proteſtant Religion*; and the gullery meeting with ſome ears that were of a juſt bore for it, paſt for a proof of *Reconcileableneſs*: But if *Proteſtants* will be of the *Orthodox Faith*, to ſave their lives, they muſt be *Nullifidians*, or rather *poſitive unbelievers*. As much faith as you pleaſe in God, where you have his veracity to aſſecurate your faith; and as little in men of that Complexion as ever you can for your lives; and perhaps there's as great Truth in this Article of my Creed; *That Proteſtants muſt be ſaved by their unbelief*; as there is in the *Ranverſe* of it, *That Proteſtants muſt be ſaved by their Faith.*

The *Crocodiles* tears, and the *Syrens* Songs are equally ſuſpicious, equally dangerous, which point the Author of the Impartial hiſtory of the Maſſacre of *Ireland*, had made out to ſatisfaction; who obſerves, that immediately before the eruption of that barbarous outrage, the *Iriſh* Papiſts ſhewed the greateſt complaiſance, and debonarity imaginable, ſo that ſome began to hope they were approaching towards

wards humanity, and going to ſtrip themſelves of the *Satyre and Canniball*: but never did a *dead Calm* Prognoſticate ſuch a dreadfull *Hiricane*? nor *a morning Sun*, ever conclude the day with ſuch *Cataracts of fire, and brimſtone*.

It ſeems a wonder to me that the wild-*Iriſh*, who are but one, (if one) degree removed from unreaſonable bruits, ſhould be capable of acting the hypocrite; but I wonder not at all they could play the part of murderers: for they who have no ſentiments of honour, or honeſty, know no difference of good or evil, underſtand no diſtinctions of virtue, or vice, but what there bellies, or more ſottiſh Prieſts infuſes into them, 'tis as natural for them to be ferine, as for their own Native Wolves to howl for their prey, and the only Queſtion is, whether they taught the Wolves or the Wolves taught them that Barbaric kind of yelling.

Now then if it be ſo unpardonable a ſin to believe Catholick promiſes, I hope I may advance one ſtep further, I ſay, 'tis no Capital crime to believe their threatnings, for they that will be worſe then their *good words*, will be full as bad as their *evil ones*, and as I would never deſire better grounds for my Suſpicion that a Papiſt intends me no good than that he Flatters; ſo neither can I deſire clearer grounds for my aſſurance that he deſigns me miſchief, than that he Menaceth.

When Queen *Mary* was at a low ebb of Fortune, how did ſhe Careſs and Complement the *Suffolk Gentry*, but when ſhe was once ſettled in the Throne, and the Crown firmly rivetted upon her Head, her ſwelling Promiſes to preſerve their Perſons, to ſecure their Religion, to indulge tender Conſciences, prov'd but a Tympany, and ſhe went ſo long with that Great Belly, that at laſt ſhe Miſcarried of a Cuſhion.

That temper of Spirit therefore which I would recommend to all true *Engliſh-men* to wards the Papiſts is this, neither ſlaviſhly to fear them, nor in any caſe to truſt them.

First, Not to fear them; for though they preſume ſtrangely upon us that they may form what Plots they pleaſe againſt our Lives and Religion without Control, and may deal with us like Felons aſſigned to the *Colledge* to be diſſected and mangled after Execution; yet we would let them know, that ſuch *Anatomies* are not to be practiſed upon us whilſt we are alive, nor do we intend to be *Scotcht in-*

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to Collops, or *chopt into mince-meat* to save their Longings, without our own Consent, which I can assure them they are not likely in haste to obtain.

I have seen a sorry *Lap-dog*, a Ladies great Jewel, to teaze, and towze, and mowzle a Cat with Imperious Pride up and down the Chamber, but when *Majestick Puss* has awaken'd her provoked Courage, and given the *Proud Pippy* to feel the sharpness of her Claws, the ridiculous Elf would run whining to Miss for Protection. Let not the Papists if they have Wit in their Anger, rouze the *sleeping English Lion*, perhaps he may give them such a swinge, as shall make their rotten Bones rattle in their Skins, and run to *Rome* to Complain to *His Holiness* what hard Usage they have met with from the Heretieks.

For my own part, I will talk of dying by their Hands when I am in their Power, and will Compound as cheap as I can for my Life when I lye at their Mercy, and in the mean time will use all Honest means, Providence shall afford me, not to fall into the *one*, nor need the *other*.

If any shall ask, *What means I account unlawful to prevent their Cutting my Throat?* I will Answer according to my present thoughts, In good Earnest I do not know, nor perhaps ever shall, till they can teach me by what Right they can Butcher me, in any case wherein I may not Honestly Defend my self: I know some of their Friends in *Masquerade*, Preach up other Doctrine; That we must then prepare to preserve our Lives, when our Enemies have dispatcht us; and as (they say) our *Irish Tories* never think their Enemies dead, till their Heads are separated a Yard at least from their Bodies: So we must be well assured the Papists have destroyed us, before we think of obviating the Destruction; that is, It's then only Lawful to Defend our selves when 'tis too late.

Secondly, *Not to Trust them.* It's observed by the Ingenuous Author of *Il Cardinalismo*, That the Politicks of the *Roman Consistory* are quite different from those of all the *European Courts*: They take *other Measures*, they proceed by *other Maxims* peculiar to themselves, and manage their Intrigues in *other Methods* than *Vulgar Statists*: And the Reason perhaps may be, that having propos'd to themselves this *One great End*, to Advance their Monstrous and Impious Kingdom over and above the Universe, they must boggle

gle at no means, how Villanous ſoever, that looks fair towards its accompliſhment. For as Chriſtians have their *Unum Neceſſarium*, which Commands all preſcribed means to reach it; ſo have the *Catholicks* their *One thing Neceſſary* too, the Acquiring, and Securing that *Secular Grandeur* that has bewitched their Souls, in Order whereto, all Differences of Juſt or Unjuſt by Reaſon, or Scripture aſſigned, are Caſhiered, and the only thing conſiderable with them is, whether it will Advance the Deſign, and beyond that they look no further: Hence is it, that to Flatter intolerably, to Perjure ſtrenuouſly, or Murder unmercifully, are but various lines that meet in the ſame point, and *Virtue* that oppoſes their miſchievous Projects, is a more abominable Name than *Vice*, that furthers them.

It is not long ſince theſe *Politicians* pluckt off the Mask, and in plain *Engliſh words* threatned we ſhould feel the keenneſs of their *Wild-Iriſh Swords*, and I am ready enough to believe they intended really as they ſpoke (in one thing we may allow them to be ſincere) that they are deſigning of Ruine, always provided, that we will ſit ſtill like Milk-ſops with our fingers in our mouths, and only deſire them to be good to us, and Cut our Throats as handſomly, and eaſily as they can, and not disfigure our *Weaſons*; and ſome Sweet-Natured Proteſtants are Conſulting, not how they may weather the Storm, but how they may drown decently.

But more lately they have pluckt in their hornes, to ſave their heads, and retreat to their old Axiome; *Children are to be cheated with Toys, and men with Oaths.* A principle which unglews the Joynts, and cuts the Sinews of all Society aſunder; For an Oath being the higheſt Security that man can give to man of his veracity, either in aſſerting, or promiſing, if once they have got the Knack to diſpenſe with its Obligation, and turn the *Sacrament of Piety* into a *Bond of Iniquity*, which an Omnipotent Pope can do, all Government is diſſolved, and Mankind thrown into a ſtate of Confuſion, wherein each mans hand is againſt another.

And what Security can they give that *leſſer Cords* ſhould hold them, who can as eaſily ſnap aſunder *theſe Sacred Bonds*, as *Sampſon* did the green Withs that bound him? If *Faithfulneſs fail*, all *Faith* muſt fail; where there's no *truſtineſs*, there ought to be no *Truſt*: And ſince they have declared *That no Faith ought to kept with Hereticks* (and the Pope with one turn of his Infallible Hand can make

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us ſo) Proteſtants muſt be Chronicled for the moſt errand Fools that ever went in *long Coats*, and *wore a bauble at their Backs*, if ever they *give them Faith* who have declared they will *keep none*? And if they have Religiouſly Vowed to Betray us, *I* know not what can Excuſe our Lethargy, if we do not make a *Counter-vow* never to believe they will keep touch in that one thing, who have been firm and conſtant in nothing but Falſhood and Perjury.

Suppoſe then we heard a Voice from Heaven, ſaying, *Tolle & Lege! Take up this Book, and Read it!* And an Echo to that voice, *Let him that Reads Underſtand*, yet muſt we *take out our Leſſon too*, *That no Faith is to be given to Popiſh Promiſes*, which except we be perfect in, we muſt begin again, unleſs we will loſe our Labour in the firſt, for want of better Attention in a ſecond Reading.

I ſhall Conclude with one Scripture (whilſt we have them in good *Engliſh*) Pſal. 55. 23. *Bloody and Deceitful Men ſhall not live out half their Days*; where I obſerve a ſtrange Conjunction between *Cruelty and Treachery*; but that which is moſt Uſeful to us is, that when they threaten we ſhall *not live out half our days*, God hath threatned, They ſhall *not live out half of theirs*; and God's Thunder-bolts will do ſurer Execution than the Popes. Of all which we have unparallel'd Examples in this little Hiſtory, *viz.* Of *Papal Cruelties and Treacheries*, and that Divine *Nemeſis* which purſued and followed the Bloody Murderers.

The Maſſacre of *PARIS*, *Auguſt* the 24*th*. 1572.

Francis the Second dying *Decemb*. 14*th*. 1560. made way for the Entrance of *Charles* the Ninth, whoſe Minority not admitting him to the Actual Exerciſe of the Government, the *Queen Mother* was by the Parliament of *Paris* admitted *Queen Regent*, and the Adminiſtration of the Kingdom Committed to her the 23*d*. of the ſame Moneth of *December*.

The *Queen*, like *Nero*'s Nurſe, Trained up her Young Pupil to Blood, and he, though Young, being ſubtle beyond his Years, drunk in her Inſtructions as readily as ſhe could infuſe them, for ſhe being Originally an *Italian*, had in her Conſtitution *Cruelty and Treachery*, to ſerve her own Occaſions, and ſpare enough for her Son.

There had been in this Kings Fathers days a Bloody Perſecution raiſed againſt the Proteſtants, for which they never wanted *Reaſons*, that had *a Will*: But it was thought adviſable in this Juncture to mitigate the Severity of it a little, and wait a fitter Seaſon to execute their palliated Malice, which, though covered in the Aſhes, was not extinguiſhed: To this end, and to render the poor Proteſtants ſecure, the Reproachful Names of *Papiſt*, *Hugonot*, or *Proteſtant*, were forbidden upon pain of Death. The *Proteſtants*, who judged it their Duty to Govern themſelves by *the out-ſide of the Proclamation*, Conſcienciouſly refrain'd from thoſe provoking terms; but the *Papiſts*, who underſtood *beyond the Letter of it*, forbore not there uſual Terms of *Hereticks and Hugonots*.

To beget the greater Confidence, a while after, all Magiſtrates are ſtraitly Commanded to Releaſe thoſe who were Impriſoned for Religion: And the King of *Navarre* (a profeſſed Proteſtant) is Declared the Kings *Lieutenant-General*, has the Keys of *the Palace* delivered

delivered to him, which hitherto the *Duke of Guiſe*, of the Houſe of *Lorrain*, had kept by the Office of *Grand Maſter*. Not long after followed the *Kings Coronation*, to Honour which Solemnity, a New Edict came forth, Commanding *all Magiſtrates not to Moleſt or Diſturb the* Proteſtants *upon account of their Religion*; and further Ordering *the Poſſeſſions, Houſes, Goods that had been ſeized upon that ſcore, to be reſtored.*

The face of things ſeem'd to ſmile upon the *Hugonots*, and they were willing to promiſe themſelves Peace and Reſt after long Trouble, from the *Royal Promiſes*; when unexpectedly to them, An Order comes forth from the *King*, *Queen*, and *Duke of Guiſe*, That *all Proteſtant Miniſters by a day prefixt do depart the Kingdom*, and that *no Religion be openly profeſſed but that of the Romiſts*, upon ſuch Penalties as were therein expreſſed.

The Proteſtants thus ſurprized, had no way left, but by moſt Humble Addreſſes to Supplicate his Majeſty to Admit a Conference between ſome of the *Prelates* and their *Miniſters*, which at laſt was appointed to begin at *Poiſſie*, *Sep.* 9. 1561. where the Doctrines and Principles of the Proteſtants were Diſcuſſed and Examined in the preſence of the King.

His *Holineſs* who never well liked theſe Conferences (upon even terms) ſuſpecting the Iſſue, diſpatches the Cardinal of *Ferrara* to the *King*, with his *Fatherly deſires*, (which *Dutiful Sons* will Interpret *Commands*) that this Matter might be referred to the Determination of the *Council of Trent*. But *France* was not then very fond of that Council, and for ſome Reaſons of State, ſuſpected the Deſigns of thoſe *Fathers*; ſo that nothing was done that way.

The *Catholicks of France* not Approving the tedious Methods of Application to the Council, in which (as in all Great Bodies) Matters of Weight move heavily, betook themſelves to their *more Expeditious ways* of Murdering the Proteſtants. The *Pariſians* fall furiouſly upon all that came in the way of their Rage, and without any Colour from the leaſt provocation, Fire the Suburbs: At St. *Medard* they Ring the *Alarum-Bell*, and then Wound, Kill, Hang up great Numbers of Proteſtants, and amongſt the reſt, one *Monſieur Gableſton*, a Knight; all which were poſted into the other World, before they could have time to conſider either why they were ſent out of this World, or whither they were a going. And

throughout the whole Kingdom the Proteſtants generally met with the ſame Meaſures.

But the *Queen*, who ſaw her ſelf not ſtrong enough to go through with the Attempt, pretends to be mightily Concern'd for the Proteſtants, and highly to reſent the hard Uſage they had found from the Multitude; and therefore Summons all the *Eight Parliaments of France* to meet at *St. Germains*, where by the *King*, *Queen*, the *Princes* and *Nobles* it was finally agreed, That *the Proteſtants ſhould have the full, and free Liberty to Profeſs and Exerciſe their Religion*, and in Order thereto, *to Meet and Aſſemble Publickly*. This Edict was Dated, and Solemnly Sworn to the ſeventh of *January*, and was therefore called, *The Edict* of the *Pacification of January*.

And now to Rock the Proteſtants once more aſleep (which was very eaſie to do, ſeeing they had been ſo long kept awake by Blood-ſhed, and Fury) the *D. of Guiſe* muſt pretend great diſſatisfaction at the Favours ſhewed the *Proteſtants*, which part he was well qualified to Act, and therefore in ſeeming Diſcontent he retires into *Spain*, having firſt taken exact Meaſures with the *Queen* how he might there lay the Ground-work of the Deſigned Tragedy.

The *Queen* on her part Diſſembles as well as an *Italian* could do, and diſcovers her Juſt Reſentments at the *D. of Guiſe*'s departure, openly Declaring ſhe was Neceſſitated to joyn with the Proteſtants, to Secure the *King*, and her *own Perſon*, againſt the Practiſes of the *Guiſian* Faction.

She therefore ſends to them to crave their Aſſiſtance, not that ſhe might know *what to hope*, but *what to fear from* their *Arms*.

The Proteſtants, whoſe Innocency would not let them ſuſpect that Villany and Treachery ſhould lodge in the Breaſt of a Perſon of that Character, of which they found no Seeds in their own, could not poſſibly found the Bottom of this Diſſimulation, and therefore readily offer the *King* and *Queen* to Defend them with their Lives and Fortunes, againſt the *D. of Guiſe*, and his Party, who (as was then rumour'd) had invited the *Spaniard* into *France*, which was indeed only an Artifice to induce the Proteſtants to believe that the Queen was real in her tendries to them, becauſe Intereſt would teach her to ſatifie her ſelf, with the whole Power of

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the *Hugonots* against the power of *Guises* and *Spain*.

And so well were they skill'd in the Art of Dissimulation, and acted their parts so to the life, that the common sort *of the Papists*, who were not fit to be entrusted with the design, looked upon these appearances to be realities, and murmured most bitterly against the Queen for her favours shewed to the Protestants.

About this time the *King of Navarre*, Constable of *France*, and some few others deserted the Protestant Cause, and Apostatized to that of the Papists: The *Duke of Guise*, and his brother the *Cardinal of Lorrain*, with the *Constable*, and many other principle Papists, knowing that tho the Protestants were more numerous by their late Persecution (which is the usual blessing that waits on Couragious suffering for the true Religion,) yet withall observing them to be very secure, thought it a fit time to return from *Spain*, and in their journey towards *Paris* at *Vessay*, they fall upon a Congregation of Protestants, assembled for the worship of God, and in a most inhumane manner, (agreeable only to themselves) Massacres 200 men, women, and children, which was not the blunting, but the sharpning of their swords for greater executions: with this success they advance to *Fountain-bleau*, where they seize the *King* outwardly by *Force*, secretly by *his Consent*: while the Protestants bewailed that their *good King* should thus wretchedly be made a property, to Colour, or Cover their ambition. At *Paris* they offerd outragious dealing to the Protestants, deface their places of Religious worship, which they could the better justifie having the *Royal Name, and Authority*, to vouch for what they acted; for who would be so hardy as to resist them that were Commissioned by his Majesty.

This example of the *Grandees* at *Paris* was enough to warrant and encourage the other Papists to commit the like insolencies all over the kingdom; which Alarmed the Protestants, and made them think there was some Colluſion: and therefore began a little to prepare for their own Defence; which the Court discovering, despaired of effecting their main design by force, and therefore had recourse to their old Artifices, once again to make them secure in their own thoughts, to which end the *Queen-mother* pretends her self afraid of the *Duke of Guise*, and his exorbitant power, she writes to the *Prince of Conde* (a firm Protestant) that he would timely provide

vide for their Common ſafety; at whoſe Command, the *Prince* with *Admiral Colligny* march with their Army, to Defend the *King*, *Queen*, themſelves, their Religion and Liberties againſt the *Guiſan Faction*, maintained by Foreigners; and this Commenced *The firſt Civil war in France*.

The Queen finding the Proteſtants Army much greater then ſhe expected, and ſooner raiſed then ſhe imagined, put on a face of joy, when her heart had another look, and repined with great Regrett, knowing upon the view of their ſtrength, that they were able to give battle to the *Duke of Guiſe*, the *King of Navarre* and all her Accomplices. She therefore perſwades the *Prince* and *Admiral*, that ſhe would enterpoſe with her whole power and Intereſt to compoſe Publick differences to their ſatisfaction by which Policy, ſhe ſlackned their proſecution of the War, till the Catholicks were in a better poſture to receive them: but theſe gallant Princes who could ſooner dye then be guilty of an unworthy action, were under great diſadvantages, becauſe they were acquainted with nothing but ſincerity in their own breaſts.

The Queen having as ſhe ſuppoſed reacht the end for which ſhe put on the Mask, now openly throws it off, and Proclaims the *Prince of Conde*, and the Proteſtants, *Rebels*; but the *Prince* pleading that he was a *Prince of the Blood*, by the Laws of *France* ought to have a ſhare in the Government; that his Majeſty ought not to be kept a priſoner, and led in Triumph by Foreiners, nor to grant Commiſſions by *Dureſs*, being indeed all this while in *Honorary Captivity*, and therefore it was too unlimited and Arbitrary a power, which ſhe arrogated to her ſelf: firſt *to cauſe them to Arm*, and then to Proclaim them *Rebels for Arming*, ſo that they flatly refuſe to lay down their Arms, but upon *Reaſonable Terms*.

Such was the aſſiſtance heaven afforded to theſe Forces that they reduced the Inſulting Papiſts to a neceſſity to Renew, and confirm to them the *Pacification of January*, with a plenary Indemnity *which (was perhaps more then needed)* for whatſoever acts of hoſtility had been committed in that War; wherein the Proteſtants had this ſignal evidence of their courage, that both the *Duke of Guiſe*, and the *King of Navarre* loſt their lives in it.

With what *beſtial ſavageneſs*, rather then *humane valour* the Catholicks managed this War, is beſt known to their *Raviſhing of virgins*

Virgins, ripping up women great with child, burying men alive, cutting out the hearts, and livers of some, and then eating them, out of wantonness, not hunger, wherein Rage and Fury, supplyed the want of true Courage and Gallantry; and all these horrid villanies committed after *faith past, oathes given, and fair quarter promised.*

This Peace continued as long as the Papists Interest would allow it to be sacred, and no longer, *viz.* from *April* 1562, till *March*, 1563; During which time they secretly reinforced themselves, and onely waited an occasion (which when it should be useful, they knew to *make just*) to fall upon the secure Protestants.

The fifteenth of *December* following, the Parliament at *Roan* declared that *King* to be out of his *Minority*, and capable of taking the Reins of Government into his own hands; who then *Solemnly swore*, that he would inviolably observe *The Edict of Pacification*, severely threatning the Infringers thereof with the utmost penalties, which once more put the unwary Protestants in possession of the *Fools Paradise*.

About this time (that no mischief might be sacred without the benediction of *holy Mother Church*) the *Cardinal of Lorraine* consulted the Fathers at *Trent*. About the most proper means to extirpate the Protestants out of *France*; who prudently advised, that *an Alliance of all the Catholick Princes should be formed, and concluded:* pursuant hereto the *King* makes a *progress* for his Diversion, and (as if casually in his journey) meets with the *king of Spain*, where these two Princes (without any noyse for fear of awaking them that were fast asleep) enter into this Association; the *Duke of Savoy*, easily is brought in, the *Emperor* becomes a party to it; and the Popes *Legate* solemnly joyns *their hearts and hands*; which confederacy, because it was entred into for such Pious *ends*, was called *the Holy League*. Pope *Pius* the 4th. earnestly desires the most *Christian king* to receive the Decrees of his *Tridentine Councill*, in his *Dominions*, which was strongly seconded by the *Spanish*, and *Italian Embassadors*, and that the *Edict of pacification* might be Cassated and disannulled; but this Proposal because it might rowse up suspicion, was (though not rejected) at present waved.

The *King and Queen* coming to *Lyons*, one of the Towns assigned to the Protestants *for the free exercise of their Religion*, by the late Peace, *forbids them peremptorily the exercise of their Religion,*

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and in all other Fortified places: by which one Nod of his head, he ſufficiently intimated to his apprehenſive *Catholicks* what was his *Royal will and Pleaſure*; nor would they give him the trouble or Inconvenience to ſpeak his mind more fully, but fall to their work in *Crevan*, *Bourgoyn*, *Tours*, and many other places; where the Number of the Slaughtered Proteſtants was ſo great, that the Rivers ran with their Blood; and all this in a time of Pacification, and therefore more Connatural to them who delight *to ſhed the Blood of War in Peace*.

But in Order to ſomewhat more Satisfactory to the Humour of his *Holineſs*, the *Duke D'Alva* is ſent by the *King of Spain* with an Army into the *Low-Countries*, to make ſure work with the Proteſtants on that ſide: And the *French King*, under the pretence of *a Guard for his Perſon*, and *the better Securing the Proteſtants*, and his Frontiers, raiſes an Army of *Switzers*; but ſome Letters miſcarrying, gave plain Intimation, that they were raiſed to ſeize the *Prince of Conde*, the *Admiral*, and the Heads of the Proteſtant Party; wiſely reckoning, that if the Heads of that Intereſt were lopt off, the reſt would be a liveleſs, and uſeleſs Trunck, without the Influence of their Courage and Conduct.

Upon this Diſcovery, and the Kings denying to do them Juſtice for the daily Inſolences offered them, and Barbarous Maſſacres committed upon them, according to the Edict of Pacification, ſo Solemnly made, ſo frequently Confirmed, the Proteſtants ſtand upon their Guard, which was adjudged a welcome Occaſion for the beginning of *The Second Civil War*.

The Iſſue of this War, was much like that of the former; for the Proteſtants, though Inferiour in Numbers, yet Superiour in Courage, and Innocency, which is the Root of Courage, bore up againſt this Formidable Combination of *Rome* and Hell; ſo that the *King and Queen*, not finding the Event to anſwer their great hopes conceived from an Army compoſed of the Flower of the Strength of *France*, *Italy*, and *Spain*, and Marching under the Bleſſing and Prayers of his *Holineſs*, propoſe *a Treaty of Peace*; to which the Proteſtants having no other Deſigns, than the Securing to themſelves that Liberty which God and Nature had given them a Title to, and of which by *the Laws of the Land*, they had been Actually poſſeſſed of, readily agreed to, and the *Edict of Pacification* was

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once more Confirmed, by Virtue whereof, they were *freely, and fully to enjoy the Publick Exercise of their Religion, notwithstanding whatever Restrictions and Interpretations had been made to the Contrary:* The Protestants were to deliver up to the King all places of Strength at present in their Hands, except three, which by *the Articles of the Peace*, were to be kept as Cautions in the *Prince of Conde*'s Name, during the term of two full Years, from thence to be expired.

The *King* not having obtained his Ends *by War*, Resolves to effect it *by the Peace*: And first, he Dissolves *his Council*, and calls a *Junto*, or *Cabinet-Council*, consisting of some few Privadoes, who might safely be entrusted with the Great Secret, Excluding many, who by Birth and Office were Entitled to that Dignity: The Main Resolve of this *Cabal* was to Surprize, and Cut off the *Prince of Conde*, the *Admiral*, and the *Chief the Protestants*, who were then at *Noyers*: In Order to which Exploit, the King gives Instructions to his Forces in those parts, to draw towards *Noyers*, pretending only the Conveniency for Quarters.

The Prince and Admiral were at their old pass of Security, and had not the least intimation of their Enemies Approach till they were near the Town; yet Providence having reserved them for other ends, they made their escapes by many wonderful Providences, through great Dangers and Difficulties to *Rochelle*.

But the King with his Council were too far Advanced to make an Honourable Retreat, and therefore to rescind the *late Peace*, and former *Edict of Pacification*, contrary to all *former Oaths and Promises*, an Edict comes forth, *To make it Treason to Profess or Exercise any other Religion in* France, *but that of the* Romists, *upon pain of Death*. In which Edict, to satisfie the World how little he valued his Royal Word, the Reputation of his Oaths and Promises, he Declared, *That albeit he had formerly by many Edicts permitted the Freedom of Religion, yet his true meaning was, to retain, and cause to be retained of all Men the onely* Romish *Religion within his Realm*. This Edict we may well conceive was entertain'd with all imaginable Joy and Triumph by the Papists, as with extream surprize by the Protestants, and with the utmost Indignation by the rest of disinteressed Mankind; for what could be more Barbarous, more Savage, than to put *a Secret meaning* upon his *Edicts*, which was di-

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rectly contrary to the *plain words* of it? But the Papists would make and take a *small Occasion*, or *no Occasion* to execute their boyling Rage upon the Protestants; and hence arose the *Third Civil War for Religion, Anno* 1569.

In this War the *Prince of Conde* lost his Life bravely Fighting in the Field, and was Succeeded by *Henry* his Son, who, with the Prince of *Navar*, were chosen *Generals* of the *Protestant Army*.

On the other side, the Young Duke of *Guise*, who with his Fathers Estates and Titles, Inherited also his Malice against the Protestants, was made Successor to his Fathers Command in the Army, and admitted into the *Cabinet-Council*.

The *King*, *Queen*, and *Duke* of *Anjou*, Besieged *St. Jean de Angelo*, which holding out Valiantly against the most furious Assaults of the Kings enraged Army for two Moneths, was at last Necessitated to Rendition upon Honourable Terms, to have all their Lives saved, to March out with *Horse, Arms, and Ensigns Displayed, with all their Goods and Movables*: But as soon as they Marched out, they were Disarmed, Plundered, and Murthered, except some few who saved themselves by flight. *Such Faith do Papists keep with Hereticks*, who might have found fairer Quarter from the *Tartars* than they had from the *Most Christian Turk*.

And here in a third instance of the Issue of this War, we may admire the goodness of God, that notwithstanding all the Assistance sent from the Pope and the *Catholick King*, yet were not the *French* able to Destroy the Protestants in that one Kingdom.

The *Cabal* being once more defeated in their Projects, Resolve to take *New Measures*, wherein they were directed by the best Advice the Pope and his profound Conclave could give them; and the King, though Young in Years, was grown Old in the Mystery of Dissimulation, and capable of Counsel that might attain his Ends.

The *King* therefore, with the *Queen-Mother*, the *D. of Anjou*, the *D. of Guise*, and *Cardinal of Lorrain*, have recourse to their former Methods, to destroy the Protestants by a Peace, and prosecute their most *deadly Hatred* under the Disguise of *Friendship*.

But the Court were so Conscious to themselves, how little they deserved to be trusted, who had so often falsified all Oaths and Promises; and suspecting that the Protestants would not easily be brought to bite at *that Bait*, under which they had so often found

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a Hack, do agree, that it must now be the highest Security imaginable that could be able to circumvent them. They set therefore their Invention on the Rack, and torture their Brains to Invent some Fallacy that might bring them within the Snares they had laid for them.

The King sends Secretly to the Admiral, and protests to him, that the *King of Spain*, and the *Duke D' Alva* had been the only Occasion of those Broyls, which had now so long wasted *France*; and that he had received such Indignities from the *Spaniard*, by their Murdering his Subjects in *Florida*, by abetting and countenancing the Revolt of *Final*, and by Poysoning his dear Sister the *Queen of Spain*, as was vehemently suspected, and casting out words touching her Honour, that he could suppress his Just Indignation no longer, but was Resolved to Vindicate himself by his Sword.

At the same time he sets a Treaty on foot, wherein it was more Secretly than sincerely proposed to make *Count Nassaw*, (who was the *Prince of Oranges* Brother, and a particular Friend to the *Admiral*,) General of an Army against *D' Alva*: Of this he Advises the *Admiral*, and declares his intent was, that his Catholick and Protestant Subjects (for both were dear to him) should Unite against *Spain*, their *Old, and Common Enemy*.

None could blame the *Admiral* if he suspected all this to be but Collusion, and yet he could not pierce into the bottom of the Design. He knew very well, that at this very time the *Spanish Embassador* was of the Kings *Cabinet-Council*; that the *D. of Guise*, and the *Cardinal of Lorrain* were *Pensioners* to *Spain*, and how to Reconcile these things with a *Hearty War* against the *Spaniard* was too difficult for his Understanding. On the other hand, for *Count Nassaw* to Command an Army in the *Netherlands*, would be a great Security to the Protestants in *France*, and a great Relief to the *Dutch*, by diverting their Cruel Enemy the *D. D' Alva*.

The *King* had studied Answers to all Objections which he foresaw the *Admiral* and the Protestants would make, and he managed the Affair with that Dexterity, that the Protestants were once more willing to hope that the King might be real.

At last a Peace was Concluded, *August* 11th. 1570. The Protestants are restored to their *Civil, and Religious Liberties*: This Peace was Ratified by, and Confirmed *in Parliament*, was Congra-

tulated by several *Foreign Embassadors*, in whose Presence the *King* Signed the Articles, Gave his *Faith* by *Oath*, *That he would ever most Sacredly, and Inviolably perform them, that he would Secure* to the Protestants the Exercise of their Religion, and at the same time Confirmed most Solemnly the *Edict of January*, 1561.

The Protestants upon the Warranty of so many Oaths and Articles, transacted with such seeming Seriousness, and visible Solemnity, began to grow very Secure; when the *King* and his *Council*, knowing that it must not be a *Slumber*, but a *deep and dead sleep* that would make them Obnoxious to his Stratagem; that he might remove all flaws of Suspicion and Jealousie, that might possibly yet abide in their minds, Issues out strict Orders into all the Provinces, that all his Catholick Subjects should have a high Regard of and Esteem for the *Kings good Subjects the Protestants*, for that it was the Kings Express Command it should be so: He proceeds, and agrees with *Count Nassaw* for the Raising the fore-mentioned Army against *Spain*; he offers the *Admiral* to be *Captain General*, and desires him to repair to him at *Paris*, that he might give him Advice in that, and other his Important Affairs.

The *King* confers many great honours upon the Protestant, and that they might not suspect him for a Polititian, he gives up himself to his pleasures, seems to mind nothing but his women, and his Recreations.

And yet further to heighten the assurance, *The Duke of Guise*, the *Cardinals of Lorraine*, and *Pelvey*, the Duke of *Mounpensier*, with other known inveterate enemies of the Protestants, grow discontented, and leave that kingdom; when all this was but Artifice, the king and his Council having resolved upon their final ruines, and utter destruction, and all this was but practise to get the Protestants fast asleep, that they might send 'em out of the world in a *golden Dream*, and an Additional, or Collateral security was given them by permitting the *Prince of Orange* to bring such *Prizes* as the *States ships* should take at any time from the *Spaniard* into the *French* Ports.

But the Master-peice of the Court-policy was to propound a match between the *Prince* of *Navarre*, and *Marguerite* the *kings* sister; which the king protested was for the confirming the Ancient consanguinity, and the late peace between the two Kingdoms of

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France and *Navarre*, and especially to give the Protestants a lasting and unquestionable assurance of *his sincerity* towards them; wherein he punctually pursued his own *Maxime of State*, *Qui nescit dissimulare, nescit Regnare! He that knows not how to dissemble, knows not how to Reign!*

And now the King issues out Orders for the fitting out of ships at *Rochel*, to intercept all succours that should be sent from *Spain* for the Relief of *D' Alva*, (but indeed upon design to seize *Rochel* it self, as will afterward appear.) He orders the *Admiral* to dispatch espyals into the *Spanish West-Indies*, that he might in due time seize some convenient share of them.

What ever had been taken from the *Admiral*, *Count Rochfoucault*, *Theligni*, or others during the War, by order of the king is restored; The *Admiralls friends* are sought out, and without their seeking prefer'd; The Protestants might have suspected such a *sunshine day*, to be but a *Breed-storm*, but that they were ashamed to be incredulous after such testimonies of Cordial affection.

And now the King, that he might out-doe the world, and himself in dissimulation, pretends great distrust of the Duke of *Anjou* his brother, who was the declared enemy of the Protestants; and he expresses his Jealousies of him, for that (said he) The *Prelates* depended more on the *Duke* than the *king himself*; and what could now the easie Protestants think less then that the King standing upon these Terms with his own *Brother*, would use their services to secure himself against his brother, and that faction.

At one time the king gives the *Admiral a hundred thousand crowns*, and on the death of the Cardinal of *Chastillon* he gives him all his Rich Moveables, and his *Revenues* for one year.

The *Admirals* place being below the *Marshals of France*, the king declares it to be his Royal pleasure that he should sit next to *Montmorency* the first *Marshal*, and above all the rest, and to let them see that he had not Confined his real affections to the Protestants of his own Kingdom, he writes to the Duke *of Savoy*, that for his sake he would shew favour to the Protestants in his Dominions. And yet further that the *Admirall* might be loaded with honour, and from the Trust the Prince reposed in him, he might learn to Trust his *Prince*; he writes to the *Admirall* once more with his own hand, to Authorize whatever he should do in the War against *Spain*.

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In the mean time *the Pope* is ſecretly inſtructed to expreſs his reſentments of the Kings great favours ſhew'd to the *Hereticks*; the Pope was not wanting to evidence his diſlike of them, which ſo nettled the common Catholicks in *France*, that they (not privy to the Intrigue) began to clamor againſt the Government, as diſaffected to the *Catholick Cauſe*, and too much Inclined to the *Hugonots*.

In the beginning of *June* 1572, the Marriage between the *Prince of Navarre* and the *Kings ſiſter* was agreed. And the *Queen of Navarre* and *Count Naſſau* came to *Paris* to congratulate and Complement them, upon occaſion of the happy Allyance; Two dayes after came the *Prince of Navarre*, the *Prince of Conde*, many *Noblemen*, *Collonels*, and gentlemen of the *Proteſtant Religion*, whom the King receives with all demonſtrations of Royal favour, and there was nothing ſeen amongſt them but univerſal joy and complacency, for the hypocriſie of the Court was not viſible.

And now the King perfects the Treaty with *Count Naſſau*, and it is alſo concluded that this famous wedding ſhall be ſolemnized at at *Paris*. *Monſieur Cavagnes*, a Gentleman belonging to the Admiral is advanced to great Honour, and he was thought a fit perſon to go to the *Admiral* to deſire his preſence at the Marriage, with whom the king might adviſe about carrying on the War with *Spain*. The *king* plucks down a Croſs formerly erected in *Paris*, as a Reproachfull Monument of the Papiſts Triumph over the Proteſtants. And his Majeſty diſpatches *Briquemault* expreſs to the *Admiral* to repeat his former deſires that he would viſit the Court, where he might aſſure himſelf of the moſt honourable Reception the King could give to a Subject, or a Subject receive from his which he intended ſhould be Martyrdom.

The *Admiral* who hitherto had prudently forborn the Kings preſence, is now at laſt ſtormed in his reſolutions, rather then perfectly cured of his Jealouſies, but he thought it would look ill, that after ſo many evidences of the kings favour he ſhould cheriſh ſuſpicions in his breaſt of the kings inſincerity; and therefore committing the event to providence was determined to go, and rather feel death once, then fear it alwayes.

At his Arrival nothing was omitted that might ſettle an opinion in the Admirals breaſt of the Kings good will to him; The King calls

calls him *Father*, Proteſts he never knew what it was to enjoy himſelf till that day, which was now Crowned with that content and ſatisfaction to his ſoul, that his inward peace might now equalize that of the moſt retired from the tumults of the world; with many more words which had nothing amiſs in them but the Hypocriſie.

The *Queen mother*, her ſons, the whole Court make him their viſits, all which he received with a countenance which teſtified he neither ſought, nor ſlighted their Addreſſes. The Admiral was now called into the Conſult about the War with *Spain*; Forces are raiſed, their Marches are preſcribed; but the *Duke of Guiſe* by the *Kings Order* advertiſes *D' Alva*, how he might ſurprize them, which was done, many ſlain, ſome taken Priſoners, about whoſe Releaſe the King writes to *D' Alva*. The *King* empowers the *Admirall* to raiſe what Number of men he judged neceſſary, and aſſigned out of his Treaſury money proportionable to the War. And then to ſhut the back door he enters into an Alliance with *Queen Elizabeth* of *England*, by the firſt Article of which League he engaged himſelf to obſerve the Edict of Pacification; and now again *he ſwears to allow, and maintain to the Proteſtants their Religion, Liberties, and Properties*, that he might be perjured all over the world.

In the ſpring-tide of all theſe tranſcendent favours to the Proteſtants, the *Queen of Navarre* was poyſon'd by one *Renault* the *Kings Perfumer*; a fair Preſent of *Perfumed Gloves* being ſent as ſuitable to the weddings, married her to her grave: but becauſe by her death, the young *Prince* became *King of Navarre*, the *French* had no more Reaſon to expreſs more real ſorrow for her, [illegible] ſhew'd real love to the Proteſtants.

[illegible] the 17th. of *Auguſt* 1572. The now *King of Navarre* [illegible] with great Pompe and Solemnity married to the Kings Siſter, [illegible] was celebrated on a ſtately ſcaffold before the Palace; where the *King* before that vaſt Confluence of people aſſembled to feed their eyes with the ſpectacle, declared with moſt religious hypocriſie, that he gave not his ſiſter in Marriage only to the *King of Navarre*, but to the whole Church of the Proteſtants, to unite them one to another, and to himſelf in the bond of an Indiſſoluble Union.

The whole body of the Proteſtants being now gathered together in *Paris*, the *heart of the Nation*, the *King* reaſonably preſum'd

ſum'd that the *Remoter parts* were deſtitute of Spirits, and therefore he ſends Orders to *Strozzi*, who with the ſhips equipped in pretence againſt the *Spaniard*, rode before *Rochell*, to ſeize the *Place*, he like a Mercenary Souldier, who at the Command of his King would have plundr'd his god, briskly attempts the place, but his deſign being diſcover'd and thereby diſappointed, taught him to deny his Intentions, or however the *French King* to diſown the Treachery, and to exonerate himſelf, by loading his Inſtrument.

It was not civil for the *Admirall* to leave *Paris* aſſoon as the wedding day was over, and therefore he intended to allot a few dayes to Decency, and the Catholicks adminiſtred him an occaſion which turn'd his Complement into neceſſity, for complaints of great outrages committed againſt the Proteſtants were brought from ſeveral parts, which obliged him to wait for the redreſs of them: and having for that end attended the *Council* ſomewhat later then ordinary *Aug.* 22. as he return'd, he was ſhot through both his Arms with *Braſs Bullets*; and ſome have ſince Commented upon the nicety of the Mettal, and determin'd that Catholicks cannot afford to go to the coſt of *Silver Bullets*, but in the Caſe of *a King*. This ſhot was made from a window of a Prieſts houſe, by one *Mannevil*, but it did not yet appear to have been done by the *Kings privity*: for he *ſware bitterly*, when he firſt heard the fact, that he would make the offender the ſaddeſt example of Juſtice, that any Age could produce.

But the *Aſſaſin* was eſcaped, though the houſe was dilligently ſearched by the Kings Officers, aſſoon as ever it was ſure he was out of danger, and all the Gates of the City were commanded to be ſhut, upon the pretence that the *Murderer* might not evade, but really that the Proteſtants might not eſcape the deſigned Maſſacre.

Four eminent perſons are appointed ſtrictly to examine the matter, who ſearch into it, as far as they durſt, upon whoſe report the King declared with his wonted Integrity, that the injury was indeed offer'd to the Admirall, but the diſhonour to himſelf.

The Admiral being wounded was conveyed to his lodgings, where he diſcovered the ſame ſpirit of Chriſtian patience, whilſt his

wound

Wound was searching, and the Bullet cut out of his Arm, that he had always uſed in the whole courſe of his Life.

The *King*, *Queen-Mother*, the Dukes of *Anjou*, and *Montpenſier*, with many other Courtiers, made him a Solemn Viſit, and with *Oaths*, which they had always ready, proteſt the Abhorrence of this Barbarous Action: The *King*, who had formerly aſſigned him a Guard of fifty *Gensdarmes*, for his Honour and Security, invites him to remove his Lodgings into the *Louvre*, and appoints him a ſtronger Guard, and Commands his Phyſicians and Chirurgeons to apply themſelves to his Cure.

Not long before this, the Proteſtants apprehending cauſes of fear, ſome of them repreſented their Jealouſies to the *Admiral*, and particularly the *Vidame* of *Chartres*, a Perſon of great fore-ſight, Adviſed the *King of Navarre*, the *Prince of Conde*, and others, to withdraw themſelves timouſly from the Danger; amongſt which intimations of a breeding Storm, theſe deſerve to be Recorded.

A Letter was intercepted from the *Cardinal Pelevs* to the *Cardinal* of *Lorrain*, Importing *Great hopes of a good Iſſue of that great Affair Reſolved on in the Cabinet-Council: That the King, by his prudent management of Matters, had quite Cured the Proteſtants of their Suſpitions, and that the Marriage would Effect the Buſineſs: That notwithſtanding the preparations for a War with* Spain, *that King and this underſtood one another well enough: That the Forces raiſed againſt the* Catholick King, *were not really intended to give him Trouble, but ſhould ſubſerve another purpoſe*; which Letter was brought to the *Admiral*.

Another was ſent to him, with Advice to Remember the *Catholick Maxime*, That *Faith is not to be kept with Hereticks*; to conſider the *Implacable Malice of the Papiſts againſt the Proteſtants in general, and himſelf in particular*; *that the* Queen-Mother, *being an* Italian, *was Irreconcileable: That the* King *had ſo accuſtomed himſelf to Swear, and forſwear, to Defile himſelf with Whoredoms, could have no Conſcience*; *that it was his Principle*, That he was not bound by any Oaths or Covenants made to his Subjects: *That he had boaſted how he had deluded* One *by his Diſſimulations, and that it was Notorious, he had Sworn to bring all the Proteſtants by theſe Articles into the Net he had laid for them.*

But the Proteſtants were ſo blinded with the Kings Proteſtations,

that

that they could not be perſwaded to open their Eyes, for the King had written Letters to the Governours of the Provinces at home, and his Embaſſadors abroad, what great Grief he had conceived for, and what utter diſlike he had of the late Attempt upon the Perſon of the *Admiral*. And to colour the Matter more handſomly, the *King* Adviſes the *Admiral*'s Friends to take Lodgings in that Street wherein his Houſe was, that they might be a Lifeguard to his Perſon.

There was now a Secret *Cabal* held in the *Privy-Garden* between the *King*, the *Queen-Mother*, the Dukes of *Anjou*, *Guiſe*, and the *Count de Retz*, how they, having brought the Proteſtants into their Toils, might at once rid themſelves of them: Where it was Reſolved, That they muſt take the preſent advantage ſo happily offered, which if they ſhould neglect, might perhaps never more ſmile upon them.

It ſeems a Wonder to many, that the King, who now for above two Years had Counterfeited Love, and Kindneſs, Faithfulneſs and Truth with ſo great exactneſs, and to the Life, did not really contract ſome of thoſe Vertues, or ſomething of thoſe Vertues by long practiſing the ſhews of them. And ſome thought that it would look ſomewhat unbecoming his Majeſty, that he who had in the Play Perſonated the *Moſt Chriſtian King*, ſhould on the ſudden appear on the Stage like *Hercules Furens*: That there might therefore be found a *Juſtifying Cauſe* for this Change in him, the *D. of Guiſe* is directed to give it out by his Adherents, That *the Proteſtants had a Plot upon his Life, that he could no longer with Safety reſide in the midſt of his Enemies*; and having ſpread the Rumour, He, with the *D. of Aumale*, addreſs themſelves to the *King*, Complaining that they were Threatned by the *Heretiks*, and were in danger of their lives; and that ſeeing their Zeal and good Affections to the Crown were either ſlighted, or undervalued, they therefore, in a ſeeming heat, deſire leave to retire into the Countrey.

The *King* ſeems to be Highly diſpleaſed with them, Bids them go whither they pleaſed, but withal tells them, if they be found Guilty of the Admiral's Hurt, he will certainly find them out.

The *D.* of *Guiſe* with his Friends in great Diſcontent take Horſe, and pretend to leave *Paris*, but Secretly they Obſcond amongſt ſome of their Confidents, have privately obtained the Kings Orders

for the Executing their long Contrived Plot. These Orders were communicated to the Chief of their Friends about the Town, and Advice given they should Arm, and be in readiness against the word given.

Upon the 24*th.* of *August*, 1572. being a Lords Day at Night the D. of *Guise* calls for the *Provost* of the City, and the Heads of the several Wards, produces, and Reads to them the *Kings Commission*, charging them to be in readiness upon a Signal: He Commands Lights to be hung out at every House; That the Catholicks should distinguish themselves by a white Cross upon their Caps, That they should Destroy the Admiral, and all the Protestants without exception.

All this while the Dukes of *Montpensier*, and *Nevers*, with many Lords of the Faction, attended the *King* at the Entry of the *Louvre*, and the Royal Guards were Commanded to assist them in the Massacre.

The D. of *Guise* being thus strengthened, Marches with the D. of *Aumale*, the *Grand Prior of France*, and 300 Commanders towards the Admirals Lodgings, and joyns those Treacherous Guards which the *King* had assigned to him seemingly for his Preservation, to his real Destruction. They Murder all they meet with, that were Friends to the Admiral, and presently break into his Chamber, and Murder him, whose late Wounds made him unable, and whose Greatness of Soul made him unwilling to resist. The D. of *Guise*, out of a wanton Cruelty, Commands his dead Body to be thrown out of the Window, which with a Barbarous scorn he kicked and trampled on, saying, *This is he! a Blessed Beginning! Let's now go on, in the Name of God!* So Customary it is with these Miscreants to Commence their greatest Villanies in the Name of God.

The Great Bell of the Palace was now rung (which was indeed the Sign for the Rabble to fall on) and Proclamation made that it was the *Kings* pleasure that all Protestants should be immediately Destroyed. This was a needless Spur to them, who ran to mischief too fast already; and when their own Cursed Principles and Inclinations whip'd them on to Violence, such Authority must needs increase the Rage.

The Papists therefore address themselves to this Meritorious Work with all Chearfulness, and without Regard to Age, Sex, and

Condition, Murder all they could find; amongſt the reſt, there fell that Night Count *Rochfoucault*, and Count *Teliqui* the Admiral's Son, whoſe Noble Spirit diſdained to Survive his Great Father; and when the Sword of theſe Villains was at his Throat, bewailed nothing but that he had been accidentally acceſſary to his Father's Murder, by inducing him to give Credit to the *Kings* Promiſes.

The *D. of Guiſe*, all this while, with *Montpenſier*, *Gonzagne*, the *Grand Prior*, and many other Popiſh Lords Rode about encouraging the Multitude to Compleat the work, who found their Bodies ſooner wearied than their Malice with acts of Cruelty: The Streets were filled with dead Bodies of Murder'd Proteſtants, wherein it was Queſtionable, whether the Number of the Slain, or the manner of the Slaughter were more Execrable.

Women with Child were Murdered, and it was accounted great gain, that one ſtroke had deſtroyed a couple: Living Infants were torn out of the Wombs of their newly dead Mothers, for fear ſome Accident ſhould help them into the World before they ſhould ſend them out of it. None found worſe Quarter with them than Young Virgins, whom they made the Objects of their moſt terrible Fury, becauſe they would not be the Abjects of their baſe Luſts. Little Children ſuffered upon a ſpecial point of Policy, that they might not leave a Nurſery of Hereticks behind them; in this thing more unmerciful than the *Turks*, who Murder not the Children of Chriſtians, but train them up to become their *Janizaries*.

The Noyſe of ſixty thouſand Murderers, whoſe Clamours were increaſed by the Echoes, filled all places with Horror, and repreſented a Hell to all but thoſe whoſe Heaven is Barbarity. The Pavements, Market-places, Streets, were all ſtained with Blood, which ran down the Kennels into the River, rather to Polute the *Seine*, than waſh away its own Guilt; and all this ſhed by ſuch a mixture of Cruelty and Treachery, that though both were great, 'tis Queſtionable whether were greater.

One Nights Rage was not enough to ſatisfie their Thirſt, & therefore without more ſleep than what might give them breath, they fall on freſh the next day, as if the formers Cruelty had rather whetted, than glutted their Appetites: But they had ſo improvidently Husbanded their Fury, that they left little to do for another day. They ſearch all Cellars, Vaults, Garrets, and whatever Secret

places

places the Protestants might possibly fly to, to escape present Destruction. They Sacked, and Plundered four thousand Houses, Murdered above five hundred Barons, Knights, and Gentlemen, besides Ten Thousand of Inferiour Ranks. And because many in the Suburbs might be supposed willing to save their Lives by flight, they beset all the Roads leading from *Paris*, and whomsoever they found were with the same unmerciful mercy Butchered.

The *King* had sent his Couriers to the Governours of the Provinces, whereby he required the Cities and Towns to Imitate the Example of *Paris*, and without Exception to the Law of God, or his own, to Destroy the Mother with the Young ones, and to be Impartially as well as Inhumanely Cruel: And in the *Interim*, causes the *King of Navarre*, and the *Prince of Conde* to be brought before him, where he acquaints them, that not onely in *Paris*, but through the whole Kingdom, the *Hugonots* were cut off; that now they were at his Mercy for their Lives, which upon their speedy Reformation, and Embracing the Catholick Religion, but upon no other Terms, might be secured to them.

The King of *Navarre* Humbly besought His Majesty to Remember his many Oaths and Promises made to them, that for his own Person it ought to be Sacred by the Law of Nations, being *A King*; that the new Relation wherein he stood to His Majesty by the Marriage of his Sister, ought neither to be *Cemented* with, nor *Dissolved* by *Blood*: and by all that was Sacred entreated him not to put him upon a Temptation *to make Shipwrack at once of Faith and a good Conscience*.

The *Prince of Conde* Answer'd with much Resolution, That his Majesty might be pleased to Remember the many Solemn Oaths and Promises he had made, both Publickly and Privately to the Protestants, which by the *Laws* of God and Man he was Bound to keep Sacred, and that if he did violate them he would certainly Expose himself to the Severe and Impartial Vengeance of God: He proceeded, that as for his Body and Estate, his Majesty might dispose of them as he thought good, but he should make a very sad exchange to lose his Conscience and Religion to save his Life: The King in great Fury flung away from him, saying, *Mass, Bastile, or Death*, and that he should have three days to Consider of it. The Prince Answered as Gallantly, *As for the first, by the Grace of God*

I will never chuse it; but *for the two other, his Majesty might chuse for him which he pleased.*

The next day all the Gentlemen and Officers that waited on these two Young Princes were by the Kings Guards Murdered, the King looking on, and feeding his Bloody Soul with the Spectacle: These Gentlemen were about two hundred, who all Suffered Death with much Courage and Resolution, onely Modestly reflecting upon the Kings Treachery.

When the Kings Order arrived in the Provinces to Massacre the Protestants there, the Catholicks were transported with incredible Joy, and fell to their Natural Food, that is, Murder and Rapine, without saying Grace, though his Holiness afterwards, when they had been glutted with Carnage, gave God Solemn Thanks.

At *La Charite*, The *Italian Horse*, with the *French*, cut all the Protestants in pieces; where the modes of cruelty were so various and barbarous, that nick will blush to relate, which never chang'd their countenance to Commit: Travelling women were stab'd into the bellies, and thrown out at the windows, and exposed in the streets, the infants not fully separated from their mothers, had their soul seperated from their bodies, representing Christianity with so ugly a face to those who cannot distinguish between Popery and Christianity, That *Turks* and *Jews* applaud themselvs in their Infidelity, and chuse rather their own Miscreancy then such Catholicism.

Assoon as the Kings Edict arrived at *Lyons*, *Mandelai*, the Governor commanded the Gates to be shut, and made Proclamation it should be present death for any Protestant to stir over his threshhold: Assoon as he was furnisht with Instruments to abet his design, he summons them all to Appear personally before him, who immediately sent to the Common prisons, and because they were too narrow to hold them, he shuts up the rest in the *Arch-bishops Palace*, and commands the *Common-Executioner* to take a competent Number of Assistants with him, and murder them all. The Reader will look for nothing but blind obedience from such a Creature, but now behold a wonder. The Executioner answered, Sir, I am *an Officer of Justice*, not a cut-throat, and will not execute any man till the sentence of the Law hath pass'd upon him; and the Soldiers too refused to be the ministers of such a Tyranny; so that

he

he was forced to let loose the rabble upon the unarmed Protestants, and they with knives and hatchets, or whatever other weapons of cruelty their Rage administred, murder that vast Number.

But first they began with the disports of cruelty, cutting off the fingers of some, the noses of others, the Members of many others, till having played with the prey for some time, they hewed them in pieces, or otherwise dispatcht them all at last: and that they might not lose the contentment they took in the acting of these villanies, they expose the naked bodies of these Massacred Innocent men, and women to the open view, in unseemly and immodest postures; and that they might gratifie their profit as well as pleasure, they rip up the bodies of the more Corpulent, and sell their grease or fat, for cutinary, or Medicinal uses.

Nor were these inhumanities peculiar to *Lyons*, but at *Troys*, *Meaux*, and many other places, they had their scenes of cruelty and reacted their former Tragedies.

At *Orleans* they continued the Massacre for three days, where the Bodies of Men, Women, and Children were thrown to the Dogs, who, perhaps, spared them more than these *Cannibals*. At *Tholouse*, *Bourdeaux*, they committed the same outrages, and yet the Faith and Patience of the Saints and Martyrs of *Christ* Triumphed over all. At *Roan* were Murder'd 6000 Men, besides Women and Children; in all which Instances of Cruelty, their Fury shewed it self *Immortal* in Persecuting the *Dead*.

The King now had cunningly Cast his Net, but yet some of the small Fry had escaped his Drag; and therefore to let the World see how accomplish'd a Dissembler he was, he issues out his Proclamation, wherein he Declares his Grief for the Blood that had been shed (and there was cause for more real Grief than he was guilty of) That it was contrary to his Will and Command, and that he was Resolved most Severely to Punish the Murderers; and therefore Commiserating the Deplorable Condition of those that were fled for shelter to Caves, Dens, Woods, and Mountains, he Invites them to Return, promising to Secure them against all Injuries whatsoever. It is a wonder that any Creature should be so silly as to come near that Trap, which had already been stained with the Blood of their Fellows; we have onely this to say in their Excuse, that they chose rather to die once by a Sword, than to be always

dying

dying by Cold and Hunger; and therefore they will once again adventure upon his *Royal Word*, not knowing perhaps but that Rage and Fury might have been so *wearied*, though not *satisfied*, with a glut of Blood, that they might have *spared*, or however *reserved* those Fragments for another Collation. *France* had now been for more than a Moneth *One great Slaughter-house*. And the *Odium* of the Cruelty was resented strangely by some of his Allies; and indeed some Papists, who were not *Bigots*, nor so Priest-ridden as the most, spoke very untowardly of the Kings Actions. That he might therefore extenuate his Crime and Shame, he sends Letters to Foreign Parts, where Murder was reputed a sin, and casts the blame upon the *Duke of Guise*, and his Accomplices: But in those to *Spain* and *Rome*, where Murder was Merit, he ingrosses the whole Glory to himself, and speaks of the *D. of Guise* as no other than his Instrument.

Two days after the dispatch of these Packets, he asserts this late Action in the *Parliament of Paris*, and owns that all was done by his Commission; but because every Mans thoughts must stumble upon a difficulty, how could such a Commission consist with his *former Oaths and Protestations?* He pretends, That the Admiral and the Hereticks had Conspired against his Person, and his Nobles, who being too Numerous to be Punish'd in the Ordinary tedious Forms of a Court of Justice, *Reasons of State* would Justifie his more Expeditious procedure, wherein, though some small Circumstances might not be so Regular, yet they had but paid those Lives to the *Sword*, which they owed to the *Wheel*; and for the Guilt of the Admiral, he would in a few days make it Evident to the World.

A Commission is presently granted to certain Judges, who Hang up the *Admiral in Effigie*, his Coat-Armour is Torn, or Reversed, his Castles are all Demolished, his Woods Cut down, and all the Marks of Treason fixt upon his Memory: This was a dreadful Sentence, and wanted nothing but *Truth and Proof* to have made it bear a face of Justice.

Those Gallant Gentlemen, *Briquemault*, and *Caviagnes*, are also Apprehended, and dealt with by Threats and Promises to Confess the Admiral's Design against the *King* and the *D. of Guise*; but they Confess'd nothing, because they had nothing to Confess, and told their Judges, they durst Appeal to the Consciences of them

and

and their Accusers touching the *Admirals* and their own Innocency.

These *Judges* it seems were not Corrupt enough to gratifie the Design, but being Conscious of the Integrity of these Gentlemen, refused to pass Sentence upon them: But the Work must be done, and therefore a Second Commission is issued out to Delegates better prepared for the Service, who, upon a slighty Examination, immediately Condemn'd them; yet with offer of Life, if they will but Accuse the *Admiral*, which they bravely Scorning, Execution was Committed on them, that is, a Legal Murder. The *King, Queen, D. of Anjou*, with the Court, would needs be Spectators of the Execution, before whom, to the last gasp, they vigorously asserted the Admirals, and their own Innocency, and pray'd God to forgive the King his Cruelty and Treachery.

The King not long after appoints *a Form of Abjuration*, whereby the remainder of the Protestants were Commanded to Renounce their Religion; some few timerous Spirits yielded, and yet were Murdered, to tell the World, that there's no Revenge so Glorious to Catholicks, as when they can with one blow stab the Body and the Soul; and to warn surviving Protestants, That *they that will basely save their Lives, shall lose them.*

What the Pope Contributed to this Massacre, by his Counsel and Advice, by his Prayer and Blessing, by his Forces and Troops, has been before intimated; but how he accepted this Service when it was performed, we must now Relate.

His *Legate* freely Absolv'd the Murderers of the Protestants at *Lyons* of all their sins, which was a dangerous point; for if they acknowledge them to be sins, we shall Question the Popes Power of Forgiveness; but we will Charitably suppose that they were but Venial sins, which needed no Pardon to secure them against Hell, but onely a Pardon of Course to prevent Purgatory.

But when once the Blessed News came hot to *Rome*, and had obtained an Authentick Credit by an Express, (for the Tidings were too good and great to be believed upon Rumours) then did *his Holiness*, and his *Cardinals* in their *Scarlet Robes* double died with the Blood of the Servants of Christ, march in *Solemn Procession*, caused all the Great Guns to Thunder out their Joy, and Sung *Te Deum! We Praise thee O God!* As if they would make a God of Infinite Mercy accessary to their Cruelties; and a *Jubile* was pro-

 claimed,

claimed in Honour of it, that Heaven, Earth, and Purgatory might ring with the loud Acclamations of their Triumphs.

In *Paris*, the *King*, *Queen*, and Court went to *Noſtre-dame* in Solemn Proceſſion to give God Thanks, who neither deſired nor deſerved it, having neither Heart in the Approving, nor Hand in the Executing a Deſign ſo contrary to his Nature and Commandment: They might better have ſtay'd at home, ſaved their pains and thanks for their own perfidious Heads, and Hearts, and Bloody Hands; for whatever in the work they thought might deſerve Praiſe and Commendation, but how then ſhould the World be Cheated, and God Mocked?

His *Holineſs*, *In perpetuam rei Memoriam*, cauſed the Draught of this Maſſacre to be hung up in his own Chappel in *Peinture*, that when his Zeal to his God ſhould cool, he might have before his Eyes a Memorial of his Obligations to him to be thankful; which makes me think the Pope has ſome ill-favour'd God of his own more than we underſtand, who is ſo delighted with Blood and Carnage, which we know the *True God* of Chriſtians profeſſedly to abhor.

I will Digreſs a little with the Readers leave and patience, and ſhew that this Barbarous Cruelty of the Papiſts, was not peculiar to the Papiſts of that Age, or that the Old Serpent has loſt his Poyſon by length of time; 'twas a Fury *peculiar* indeed to Papiſts, but yet *Common to all Papiſts*, in all Ages, and is the true *Catholick Religion*, if we may Credit that Famous Maxime of *Lirinenſis*, *Quod ab omnibus, quod ubique, quod ſemper, illud damum eſt vere Catholicum.* That Savageneſs which has obtained amongſt all the Papiſts, at all times, and in all places, where they had Power, *is true Catholick Savageneſs.* Let the Reader at his leiſure, look into *Germany*, *Poland*, *Piedmont* for Inſtances: My Occaſions call me homewards, and will only touch upon the Coaſt of *Ireland* as we Sail along. Nor is it the 300000 Innocents there Murthered by the moſt hideous Methods of Cruelty, which no Age, no Hiſtory but of the Papiſts can parallel, that I ſhall inſiſt upon, but with what unſpeakable Joy it was received by his Holineſs at *Rome*, and what Hand he had in the Contrivance of it.

The Pope ſends a Letter, Dated at *Rome*, *Octob.* 18. 1642. to Excite *Oneal* the *Arch-Traytor*, to Proſecute the Rebellion: *Communi-*

municating to him, and the reſt of his Catholicks there engaged in the Catholick Cauſe, the plenary forgiveneſs of all their Sins: And *In Articulo Mortis, full Abſolution, and Indulgence,* with his own *Pontifical Benediction.*

In another *Letter,* Dated at *Rome, Feb.* 1. 1642. To the *Arch-Biſhops, Biſhops, Nobles, and People of* Ireland, he aſſures them of *Divine Aſſiſtance if they prefer the Safety of the* Catholick *Faith* before all *other Reſpects, and ſuffer nothing to be Tranſacted prejudicial thereto:* Beſeeching God of his *Divine Clemency to be propitious to their general Endeavours and Enterprizes.* Now, ſure the Pope has a god by himſelf, when *Divine Clemency* muſt be entreated to Bleſs and Favour *Inhumanity and Cruelty.*

His *Holineſs* (if you will not henceforth call him his Filthineſs) ſent the following *Bull* to his dear *Iriſh* Children.

URBANUS OCTAVUS,
Ad futuram rei Memoriam!

"Having taken into Our ſerious Conſideration the great Zeal of "the *Iriſh* towards the propagating of the *Catholick Faith*: And "the *Piety of the Catholick Warriours in the ſeveral Armies of that* "*Kingdom* — And having got certain Notice, how in Imitation "of their *Godly and Worthy Anceſtors,* they Endeavour by *Force of* "*Arms to deliver* their Enthralled Nation from the *Oppreſſions,* and "*Grievous Injuries* of the Hereticks, wherewith this long time it "hath been afflicted and heavily burthened: And *Gallantly* do what "in them lies, *to Extirpate, and totally Root out all thoſe workers of* "*Iniquity.* We therefore being willing *to Cheriſh them* with the "Gift of thoſe *Spiritual Graces* (whereof by God We are Or-"dained the *Onely Diſpoſers on Earth*) by the Mercy of the ſame "Almighty *God,* truſting in the Authority of the Bleſſed Apoſtles, "*Peter* and *Paul,* and by Virtue of that *Power of Binding and* "*Looſing,* which *God* was pleaſed without Our deſerving to confer "upon Us: *To all and every of* the Faithful Chriſtians in the afore-"ſaid *Kingdom of Ireland* now, and for the time *Militating againſt* "*the Hereticks,* and other Enemies of the Catholick Faith, — Do "grant *a full and plenary Indulgence, and abſolute Remiſſion for all* "*their Sins.* — And withal heartily deſiring all the Faithful in

 "Chriſt,

" Christ, *now in Arms* as aforesaid would be partakers of this most " precious Treasure. To *all and every one* of the *aforesaid Faith-* " *ful Christians*, we grant *License*, and give *Power* to chuse unto " themselves for this effect any fit Confessor, whether a Secular " Priest, or a Regular of some Order, as likewise *any other Select Per-* " *son* approved of by the *Ordinary of the place*, who, after a dili- " gent hearing of their Confessions, shall have Power to *liberate* and " *absolve* them from *Excommunication*, *Suspension*, and all other " *Ecclesiastical Sentences* and *Censures*, by *whomsoever*, and for *what* " *Cause soever pronounced or inflicted upon them.* As also from *all* " *Sins*, *Trespasses*, *Transgressions*, *Crimes*, *and Delinquencies*, how " *Hainous and Atrocious* soever they be.

Given at Rome, *in the* Vatican, *or St.* Peters Palace, *the* 25th. *day of* May, 1643. *and in the Twentieth Year of Our Pontificate.*

M. A. Maraldus.

But if any desire more ample Satisfaction that the Pope has Influenced all the Murders, Wars, Massacres, and Miseries of *Europe*, let him either Read the Memoires of Former Ages, or view the Transactions of the present; or for a Compendium of all his Villanies, let the diligent Observer peruse but the late Complicated Plots and Conspiracies of the Catholicks in *Great Britain.*

The Papists had scarce Complicated their Cruelties in *France*, when the Just and Holy *God* began to make *Inquisition for the Blood of the Innocent*, which they had shed like water upon the ground. A Credible Author has Observed, that of *a thousand* of the Chief of these Murderers, which escaped the Justice of Man, not above ten escaped the Just Vengeance of *God*, but drunk of that Cup Righteously which they had made others Unrighteously to drink.

Charles the Ninth, the great Designer of the Massacre, a Man made up of Dirt and Blood, like *Nero* in his Constitution, was Macerated in Dirt and Blood in his Dissolution: This Cruel and Treacherous Prince, in the Flower of his Age, not exceeding 24 Years, had Blood breaking out at all the passages of his Body, he lay rolling and wallowing in his own, who had caused so many thousands to be choaked in theirs: He was Tormented with strange

Terrors

Terrors of Conscience, affrighted in the Night with hideous noises, and in a disparing Condition gave up his polluted Soul to the Divine Justice.

Henry the Third his Successor, and *Brother*, who was that *Duke of Anjou*, so active in the Destruction of the Protestants, was stab'd by *Jaques Clement*, a *Jacobin Monk*, in that very Chamber, and place of the Chamber, on that very day of the Moneth on which he had Consulted, and Consented to the Bloody Massacre.

The *D. of Guise*, and *Cardinal of Lorrain*, two more of that Accursed *Cabal*, well known Instruments in the whole Wickedness, were Murdered by the Command of the same *Henry* the Third. Thus we may Read Mens sins often-times in their Punishments, and the Exemplary Justice of *God*, in making them the Instruments of one anothers Punishments, who had formerly been the Instruments to one anothers Villanies: And we cannot but further Observe, That both these Princes, who had made so many Children Fatherless, were themselves *written Childless* by the Hand of Heaven, neither of them leaving *any Lawful Issue* behind them to Inherit their Crown, Kingdoms, or Malignity against Religion.

VVhat Rewards the *Holy Father of Rome* gives to his Children, when they have Executed his Displeasure upon Gods Children, we see also, in that *Henry* the Third, and in *Henry* the Fourth, who, to save his life and Kingdom, denied his *God*, and thereby lost both: He first denied *God* with his *Mouth*, and *Chastel* stabbed him in the *Mouth*; and when he proceeded to Renounce *God with his Heart*, *Ravilliac* stabbed him *at the Heart*: And thus he that had bequeathed his Heart in a Complement to the *Jesuites*, had it seized by them before he intended to resign it.

VVhat Use the Protestants are to make of this Dismal Tragedy, has been Noted in the Introduction to this present History; which is, onely never to Trust them who have always been false and Treacherous. No History for 400 Years last past giving us an Instance of any Invasion made by the *French* (who are now *the only Formidable Horn* of the Beast) where first they had not prepared their way by the Treachery of a Party amongst those whom they had Invaded. To Expel the Papists out of the Nation, is to Expel at once all our Danger, provided, we Expel our Sins with them: But *Priests and Jesuites* are not onely *Proclamation-proof*, but

Law-

Law-proof. What the *Historian* says of *Astrologers* in Old *Rome*, I may well apply to the *Papists* in our *England*, *Est genus hominum quod semper retabitur, & semper in Urbe nostrâ retinebitur*. There are a Company of Rascals that are always sending, but never sent away; always going, but never gone from *England*; perfect *Ubiquitarians*, and, like their *Bread-god*, *here, and there, and every where*, but *no where Honest*. These are those *Egyptian* Frogs which crawl, not onely into private Houses, but into the Palaces of Nobles and Princes, nay, dare to croak in the *Bed-Chambers*, nay, in the *Beds of Kings*.

Against whose encroachments we have no Remedies but Union amongst our selves, and watchfulness against the Common Enemy. The *French Historian* Notes, that before the *Massacre of Paris* the *Protestants* were as Secure as *the Generation before the Flood*; we are never *less Secure*, than when we are *most Secure*. They were then grown careless in the Worship of *God*, drowned in worldliness and much Sensuality unbecoming their Holy Profession; they were grown remiss in the Observation of the *Lords-day*, and upon a *Lords-day* the Torrent of Barbarous Cruelty broke in upon them. I pray that we, who are too like them in sin, make not up the parallel with too much exactness in Punishment.

I Conclude with the Confession of *Thuanus*, an Impartial Historian (though a Papist.) *Wise Men* (saith he) *that were not addicted to the Protestant party, seeking all manner of Excuse for that Fact, did notwithstanding think, that in all Antiquity there could not be found an Example of the like Cruelty.*

FINIS.

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